

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ATHENS 06257 292335Z

70

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-11

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PA-04 USIA-15

PRS-01 SP-03 DRC-01 /094 W

----- 102105

R 291631Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5224

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USEC BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

UNCLAS ATHENS 6257

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, GR

SUBJECT: LABOR: GOG ANNOUNCES NEW MEASURES TO AID
NATION'S WORKERS

1. PM CARAMANLIS HELD SPECIAL MEETING WITH MINISTER OF
LABOR LASKARIS AUGUST 28, AT CONCLUSION OF WHICH NEW
MEASURES ANNOUNCED TO ASSIST LABOR SECTOR

MAIN PROVISIONS FOLLOW:

A) CONSTITUENT ACT TO BE PROMULGATED SHORTLY
(PERHAPS WITHIN VIEW DAYS) WHICH WILL "CREATE CONDITIONS
NECESSARY FOR RESTORATION OF TRADE UNION LIBERTIES."
IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT ACT WILL PROVIDE FOR ERADICATION
OF ALL "ANTI-LABOR LAWS" ENACTED SINCE APRIL 1967
GOG'S GOAL INCLUDES NOT ONLY RESTORATION TRADE UNION
FREEDOM BUT ALSO ADOPTION OF NECESSARY LEGISLATION WHICH
WILL CONFORM GREECE'S LABOR PRACTICES WITH INTERNATIONAL
LABOR CONVENTIONS.

2) MINIMUM DAILY WAGES AND MONTHLY SALARIES FOR
UNSKILLED LABOR INCREASED BY TEN PERCENT EFFECTIVE
SEPTEMBER 1, 1974. CURRENT MALE MINIMUM DAILY WAGE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 ATHENS 06257 292335Z

OF 165 DRACHMAS WILL BE RAISED TO 181 DRACHMAS WHILE FEMALE

MINIMUM DAILY WAGE WILL BE SET AT 158 DRACHMAS VICE 144 DRACHMAS
(NOTE: 30 DRACHMAS EQUALS 1 U.S. DOLLAR)

3) COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AND SETTLEMENT OF LABOR DISPUTES
BY ARBITRATION COURT DECISIONS ONCE MORE PUT INTO EFFECT.
COMMENT: THESE PROCEDURES HAD BEEN TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED
DUE TO RECENT GENERAL MOBILIZATION

4) RIGHT OF GOVERNMENT TO CURTAIL INCREASES PROVIDED BY
NEGOTIATED BARGAINING AGREEMENTS OR BY ARBITRATION COURT
DECISIONS WILL NOT BE ABOLISHED. (THIS RIGHT HAD BEEN GRANTED TO
GOVERNMENT BY ARTICLE 20 OF LAW 3239 PASSED IN 1955).

5) CERTAIN DEDUCTIONS ALLOWED GREECE'S WORKERS -- FOR
INCOME TAX PURPOSES - WILL BE INCREASED

6) AN INCREASE WILL BE PROVIDED IN THE NUMBER OF
INDIVIDUAL HOUSING LOANS TO BE PROVIDED ANNUALLY. IN
ADDITION, THE CEILING AMOUNT OF EACH LOAN WILL BE RAISED
TO 400,000 DRACHMAS VICE CURRENT LEVEL OF 250,000 DRACHMAS

7) THE OFFICE OF LABOR MANPOWER UTILIZATION WILL BE
REORGANIZED

8) A NEW LAW BEING PREPARED WHICH WILL PROVIDE GREATER
SAFETY AND HEALTH STANDARDS FOR THE NATION'S WORKERS

9) THE MINISTRY OF LABOR WILL BE REORGANIZED AND THE
LABOR INSPECTION DIVISION WILL BE REINSTATED

2. COMMENT: MOST POSITIVE AND IMMEDIATE IMPACT OF GOG
ANNOUNCEMENT ON "MAN IN THE STREET" DERIVED FROM AWARD OF TEN
PERCENT HIKE IN MINIMUM WAGES TO LABORING CLASS. IN EYES OF WORKER,
THIS CONSTITUTES CLEAR DISPLAY BY CARAMANLIS GOVERNMENT OF ITS
CONCERN FOR NATION'S WORKERS WHO HAVE CONSIDERED THEMSELVES
FRONT-LINE VICTIMS IN GREECE'S BATTLE WITH INFLATION.
REGARDING RESTORATION TRADE UNION LIBERTIES, WHILE MODALITIES
TO EFFECT THIS GOAL NOT SPELLED OUT, IT POSSIBLE THAT CURRENT
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCILS OF NATION'S CONFEDERATIONS,
FEDERATION, LABOR SECTORS AND LARGER UNIONS MIGHT BE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 ATHENS 06257 292335Z

DISSOLVED AND INTERIM APPOINTEES NAMED BY COURTS PENDING
"FREE ELECTIONS". MINISTER OF LABOR LASKARIS EXPECTED TO
PRESENT MORE DETAILS ON CONSTITUENT ACT WITHIN DAY OR SO.
TASCA

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR RELATIONS, POLICIES, LAW, LABOR UNIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ATHENS06257
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740240-0522
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974089/aaaaahkz.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUN 2002 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <26 JUN 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LABOR: GOG ANNOUNCES NEW MEASURES TO AID NATION'S WORKERS
TAGS: ELAB, GR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005